

13th ANNIVERSARY BASH!

HONORING THE HEROES IN OUR MIDST



Scholarship and Award Night

LAWRENCE FIREFIGHTER'S RELIEF'S IN

FEATURING...



B-STREET BOMBERS!

TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

DINNER BY SALVATORES

6PM: THE B STREET BOMBERS! & BOOK SIGNING!

6:45: STEVE BLACKWOOD & DERRICK FEOLE

7PM: Melvern Taylor: "PAYING ATTENTION"

TONI WAKESTER: HOST/EMCEE

Al Kaprielian: GOOD EVENING!

***COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS**

BRITTANY BALDI

TEAM ZINGALES SCHOLARSHIP

Juneilly Vargas & Sam Lara - Central Catholic.

GREATER LAWRENCE TECH. SCHOLARSHIP

*** Daniel Morroquin**

METHUEN POLICE PATROL UNION SCHOLARSHIPS

Selina Loren DeLeon & Amanda Ellen Mambro

LAWRENCE HIGH SCHOOL

Cristian Lantigua & Leslie Marrero

TOM DUGGAN REMARKS

ESSEX COUNTY SHERIFF KEVIN COPPINGER

***OFFICER TOM DUGGAN SR. PUBLIC SAFETY AWARD**

LAWRENCE POLICE CHIEF FITZPATRICK

COMEDIAN "JOHNNY JOYCE"

MIKE SULLIVAN & DAN RIVERA

***VALLEY PATRIOT 1ST AMENDMENT AWARD**

***EDITOR'S CHOICE & PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

***VALLEY PATRIOT HERO VETERAN AWARD**

RAFFLE DRAWING

DIANA DIZOGLIO & THE B STREET BOMBERS!

Bell Aire Music Productions, with DJ Rick Bellanti

DONATING THEIR SERVICES

EMCEE: **Toni Wakester, Veteran, Law Enforcement**

HALL: **Lawrence Firefighters Relief**

ENTERTAINMENT: **THE B-STREET BOMBERS !!
& Bell-Air Music Productions**

Rick Bellanti (978) 902-7041

MANGIA'S ROASTED PEPPERS, Garlick & Oil Dip,
& Bread - **GRACEMARIE & JOYCE TOMASELLI**

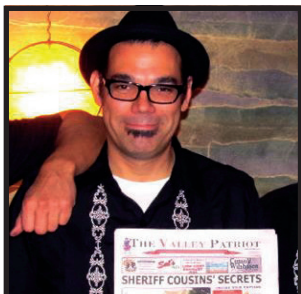
DINNER: **SALVATORES** (Mike Agricola)
354 Merrimack St., Lawrence

HUMMUS: **SAHTAINE RESTAURANT,**
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AWARDS: **HENRY'S JEWELRY AND AWARDS**
77 Essex Street, Lawrence (978) 686-1012

PROGRAMS: **Bob Wescott at Copilabs:**
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50% of tonight's Raffle
will be donated to
Veterans Northeast Outreach Center!!



Melvyn Taylor
The Paying Attention Song



Johnny Joyce
Comedian/Veteran



Toni Wakester
Emcee/Veteran

2004 Founders of The Valley Patriot



RALPH
WILBUR



TOM
DUGGAN



DR. CHARLES
ORMSBY



Tonight's B Street Bombers
Performance was Paid for by our

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Nobody has been rooting for you harder than...

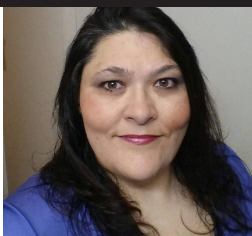
**Best Wishes Valley Patriot on
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2016 Bash Host Committee



Maria Fiato



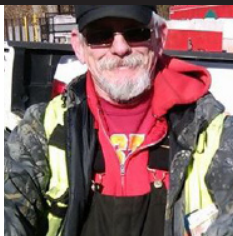
Tom Duggan



Chris Eldredge



Brenda Rozzi



Rich Russell



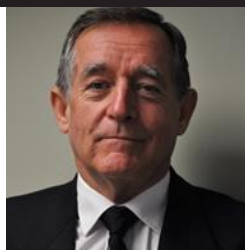
Bev D'Amico



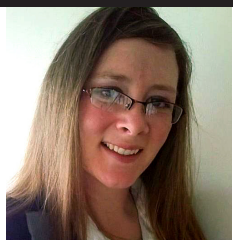
Dan Selenius



Keith Wlodyka



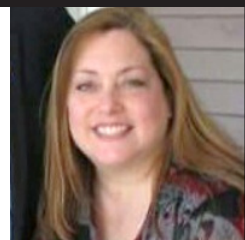
Kevin Leach



Jen Jones



Denise Donlan



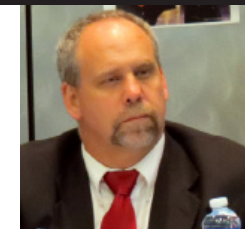
Beth D'Amato



Sandra Jean



Rick Bellanti



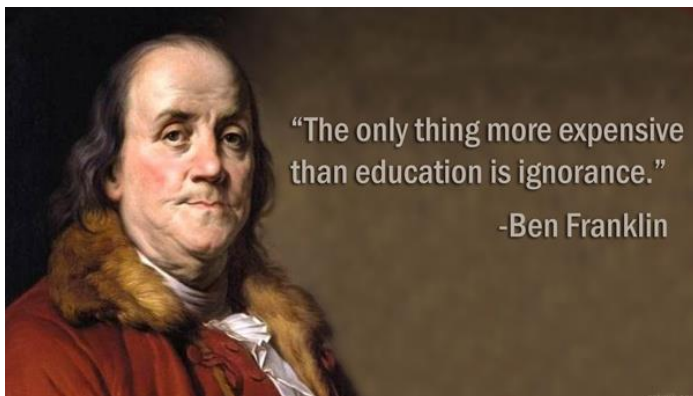
Eric Melanson

PLATINUM SPONSOR



KEVIN J. LEACH

*It is my honor and pleasure to contribute
to the deserving scholars of the community.
I wish them all the best of success!*



2017 BASH SPONSORS

Each year The Valley Patriot reaches out to our network of friends, advertisers, and supporters to raise money for our annual BASH! Please thank them and patronize their businesses, because without them there would be no scholarships or awards!

DOUBLE PLATINUM SPONSOR TEAM ZINGALES!!

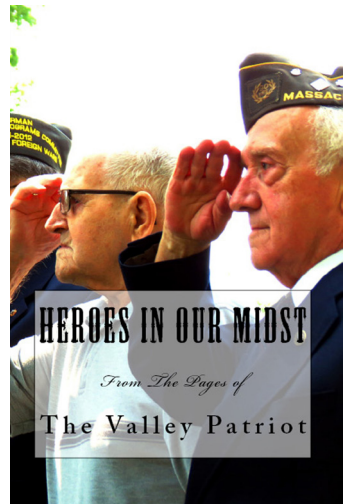
Kevin Leach
 Laborer's Union Local 175
 Tim Sheehy
 Bob Sheehan
 Joe Dunn
 Methuen Firefighters Union Local 1691
 Attorney Paul Lambert
 Joey Veil
 Tom Saab
 Frank Moran
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Donating Copies of “Heroes in Our Midst” to Veterans Tonight

Rich Russell, Rick Bellanti, Laiza Lizardo St Onge
 Tom Duggan, Clarissa Berube, Diane O’Gara
 HM Investigations, Bill Sanford, Dan Strange
 of Medford Auto School, Sabina Picciotto, Robin
 Desmet, Diana Lynn, Joan Anderson Wilson,
 Diana Barabino, Keith Grant, Kenny Tingle,
 Jose Ramos, Denise Mahoney, Dave Abdoo
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I Remember how they Laughed 13 Years and 161 Editions Ago

I REMEMBER SO WELL ...

I remember when the very first edition of The Valley Patriot was delivered to my office in Lawrence City Hall back in 2004. I had never seen anything like it. It was a breath of fresh air for free speech in the Lawrence area! Tom, you and your team have come a long way since those days, you ought to be proud!

I also remember taking my share of criticism in the pages of this newspaper, but it was always fair and never personal.

Mostly, I remember when you first unveiled your vision for standards in journalism, how you were laughed at and mocked by the political insiders and the newspaper industry.

**CONGRATULATIONS ON
GETTING THE LAST LAUGH!**

Mike Sullivan



(Then) Lawrence Mayor Mike Sullivan in July of 2005 at the placement of our very first newspaper box on Mt. Vernon St. in Lawrence.

SCHOLARSHIPS

“Thank you to Joe and Rosanna Zingales of Team Zingales for donating two \$1,000 scholarships this year.

Whether it is donating toys at Christmas time to children displaced by home fires, or donating your time to local charitable organizations, you have always been there when others were in need!”

~ Tom Duggan



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TEAM ZINGALES

Scholarships for Lawrence High School Seniors

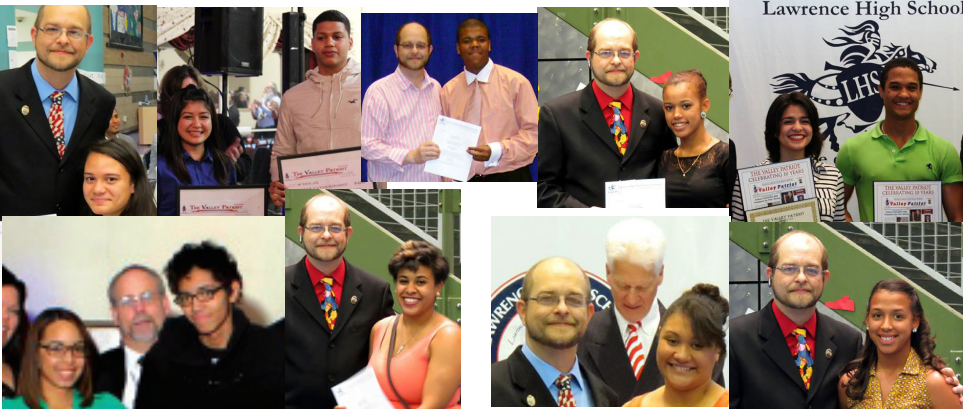
Because of our sponsors, this is the 7th year The Valley Patriot has been able to give college scholarships to Lawrence High School seniors through the Lawrence High School Alumni Association. Because of YOUR support we've donated scholarships to 8 students from LHS. Tonight, we make that 10! **PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS:** 2010-Davante Jones, Franklin Pierce University| 2011-Crismelys Ruiz, Lincoln Tech. Lowell - Med Asst.| 2012-Ambar Hussein-Martinez, Northern Essex| 2013-Thalia Garcia, Westfield State University; 2014 Sofia Cardenas and Ramses Jiminez Candelario| 2015 winners Christopher Pichardo & Caroline Garcia | 2016 winners Kevin Vanderhorst & Thu Dang.

This Year's Recipients:

Cristian Lantigua is ranked 4th in his class and maintains a 4.1 GPA. Cristian is a 3 sport athlete, participating in cross country, in-door track and field and outdoor track and field. Cristian is interested in studying education in college and would like to become a physical education teacher. Cristian has been accepted to Seton Hall University, Bridgewater State University, University of Massachusetts-Lowell, Springfield College, University of Massachusetts- Amherst, Fitchburg State University and Merrimack College.



Leslie Marrero is ranked 3rd in her class and maintains a 4.2 GPA. Leslie has also been involved with the SEED program through the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) since grade 9 where she has attended classes on the MIT campus on Saturdays. She has also been involved in student government, JROTC and the LHS Theater Guild; all while maintaining part time employment at a local retirement center. Leslie would like to study computer science in college and has been accepted to Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Rochester Polytechnic Institute, Wentworth Institute of Technology and University of Massachusetts-Lowell.



2017 GLTS Scholarship Winner

Daniela Morroquin

Daniela Marroquin, is the daughter of Ms. Yanes Flor and Mr. Edin Marroquin of Methuen, MA, has been a student at Greater Lawrence Regional Technical High School since 2013, and is graduating from the Dental Assistant career program. Daniela has field placement experience at Tufts University of Dental Medicine through the GLTS Dental Assisting program. She is planning to continue her studies in biology as a college student. Daniela has been accepted at Emmanuel College, Framingham State University, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Merrimack College, Suffolk University, University of Hartford, and University of Massachusetts Boston.



Daniela has a 4.12 GPA and is currently ranked 7th out of a class of 329 students in the Class of 2017. Daniela is a member of the National Honor Society as a result of outstanding grades, attendance, and community service. Daniela has been a four year member of the Varsity Tennis Team, Reggie Leaders, and Peer Mediators. Daniela is a member of the Interact Club and has done numerous volunteer activities such as working a car wash to raise money and painting the kitchen for the Bread and Roses Soup Kitchen. Daniela has also volunteered at numerous school functions, including Open House. Daniela has a part-time job at AMC Theaters in Methuen, MA. These experiences have allowed her to develop her communication and leadership skills along with being a very responsible young woman.

When asked about why she spends so much of her time volunteering in the Merrimack Valley, Daniella Marroquin explained, "Being able to impact someone's life by shedding a mere glimpse of hope is why I give back to my community."

Kenoza Chiropractic Offices

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ANNIVERSARY

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**David and Rosa Lo
of Salem, NH**

WE LOVE OUR GOLD STAR FAMILIES

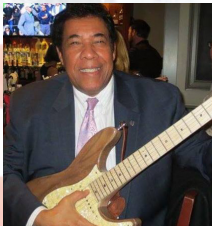
Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Lo
for your family's sacrifice!

Army Staff Sgt. Edmond L. Lo, (23) of Salem, N.H. died on June 13, 2009 while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom; assigned to the 797th Ordnance Company, 79th Ordnance Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas. Lo died in Samarra City, Iraq, when an improvised explosive device went off while his explosive ordnance disposal team was acting to neutralize it.



**CONGRATULATIONS on your
13TH ANNIVERSARY!!**

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE
NEXT 13 YEARS!



Your FRIEND!

**Marcos
Devers**

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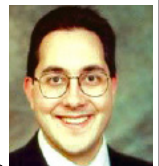
**CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR
13TH ANNIVERSARY!!**

Your friends at



13 years ago there was only one regional news-
paper in The Valley....
and then something wonderful happened....
The Birth of The Valley Patriot!

THANK YOU
VALLEY PATRIOT FOR
BRINGING REAL NEWS TO
THE MERRIMACK VALLEY!



FROM YOUR FRIEND

DJ DEEB

METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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Long before I ever ran for office I was a loyal reader of The Valley Patriot. As the Lawrence City Council President, and now a State Representative, I find it vital to keeping up with what's going on in my district. Tommy, Ralph and Chuck, *Congratulations* on hitting yet *another* milestone, your 13TH ANNIVERSARY! Here's hoping for many more!



HAPPY 11TH ANNIVERSARY!

FRANK MORAN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE



**Congratulations
and Thank You to
The Valley Patriot
for 13 Years of
compelling,
exclusive news stories!**

Marc Laplante

Lawrence City Council District F

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This ad donated by Kathleen LaPlante,
Author of "Surviving My Father's Suicide"

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**HAPPY 13TH!!
YOUR FRIEND**

SCOTT WOOD
Haverhill
School Committee



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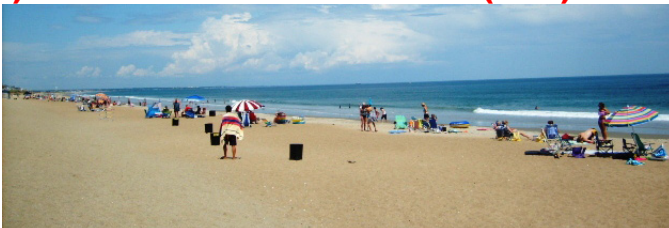
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Salisbury Beach

Congratulations to

The Valley Patriot!



Lawrence, Andover, North Andover, Methuen

FREE



"Congress shall make no law..."

Volume 1, Issue 1

March 2004

16 Pages

School Committee Bills Taxpayers for Fine Dining

Tom Duggan

For the past three years members of the Lawrence School Committee have been billing the taxpayers for plush dining at the city's most expensive restaurant: One Mill Street.

Then School Committeemen Noah Shannon, Pedro Arc, Suzanne Picciello, Nancy Kennedy and current member George Gonzalez all dined with Superintendent Wilfredo Laboy and his staff after school board meetings running up tabs worth over \$1,200.00.

Documents obtained by The Valley Patriot show that state taxpayers treated members of the Lawrence School Committee to more than a dozen expensive meals between 2001-2003.

Meal reimbursement receipts show School Board members helped themselves to veal, sirloin steak, calamari, pork chops, duck, steak salad, garlic shrimp, mussels, scallops, spinach chicken, assorted appetizers and other various menu items. The meals were then billed to the Lawrence Public Schools which receives 100% of its funding from the state and federal government.

While Superintendent Laboy's \$156,000 a year contract does not include a meal allowance, he says that some of his expenses are reimbursable. "I don't have a meal allowance but it is accepted

"...the Ethics Commission should be informed about this. They should pay back every penny with interest and issue a written apology to the school children and the citizens of Lawrence."

Michael Sweeney
Lawrence School Committee

practice for me to be reimbursed for certain expenses as long as they are reasonable and sensible," he said.

School Committee members, on the other hand, do not have that luxury. According to the School Committee policy (B-18) "School Committee members shall receive no compensation for their services. However, upon submitting vouchers and supporting bills for expenses incurred in carrying out specific services previously authorized by the Committee, Committee members may be reimbursed from district funds." This never took place regarding meal receipts from One Mill Street.

Instead, some School Committee members took advantage of their position as

Continued on Page 8

Smith v. Smedile for N. A. Selectman

Valley Patriot Staff



face to the voters in her bid for reelection.

Joe Edward Smith, an engineer by trade and a union Democrat, says his campaign is about open government and representing issues important to the town voters. "There is a big difference between Ms. Smedile and myself," he said. "Before the voters decide who will represent them on March 30th it is important that they know what those difference are."

"I opposed the trash transfer station and Ms. Smedile supported it," Smith also said Smedile supported leasing half the airport land adding, "the people of North Andover clearly wanted it sold off. It is important to represent the people of the town and act on their behalf." Smith says he opposes \$95,000 in raises for nonunion employees "especially at a time when we are talking about laying off fire

Continued on Page 13

Sullivan: "Absent All Auto Fraud, Insurance Rates Won't Go Down!"

Tom Duggan



"...if you call the Board of Insurance today and ask them..." "If the auto fraud goes away completely (in Lawrence), at what point will the rates go down? They will tell you what they told me last week, they won't."

...Lawrence Mayor,
Michael J. Sullivan

Lawrence - Mayor Michael Sullivan says that even if police investigations are capable of eliminating all auto insurance fraud in the City of Lawrence, "auto insurance rates still won't go down."

Sullivan, touting the hard work of Police Chief John Romero and the Lawrence Police Department, said that the investigations into auto insurance fraud in Lawrence were producing startling results but added, "If you call the Board of Insurance today and ask, just for example, 'if the auto fraud goes away completely (in Lawrence) at what point will the rates go down?' What they will tell you is what they told me last week, they won't."

Continued on page 7



Lt. Governor Kerry Healey with Maria Marasco

Andover's Marasco Campaigns for Reform

Valley Patriot Staff

Boston - State Rep. Candidate Maria Marasco (R-Andover) received a campaign boost from Lt. Governor Kerry Healey in Boston last week at her first fund raising event in preparation for her formal campaign announcement for 18th Essex State Representative. The district spans six communities, including her hometown of Andover, North Andover, Boxford, Haverhill, Methuen and Georgetown. The seat is currently held by first term incumbent Barbara L'Italiani (D-Andover).

"Maria is exactly the right kind of person who will best represent her district," said Healey. "Maria has the right kind of skills to help us reshape government in an effective way," she said. Marasco supports the governor's efforts to cut waste and mismanagement in state government.

"I will stand by the Governor and Lt. Governor to make responsible reforms. As

Continued on Page 5

Syndicated Columnists



Neil Cavuto

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Thomas Sowell

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ALSO INSIDE:

Rabbi Goldstein on "The Passion"



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2003 Police Line of Duty Deaths by Craig Floyd

Page 3

Profile of Andover School Candidates

Page 13

Dr. Charles Ormsby - Thinking Outside the Box

Page 3

Paying Attention!

Page 4

N. Andover Selectman Race, Smith v. Smedile

Page 5

Senior News/Senior Centers

Pages 10 & 11

...on 13 Years of AMAZING News Coverage



-Mike Gagliardi,
Local 175 Laborers' Union of North America



27

Year Remembrance...

You will never be forgotten

Lawrence Police Officer
Tom Duggan, Sr.



Killed in the line of duty
March 16, 1990



It's not how they died that makes them heroes, but how they lived

THANK YOU

to our Keynote Speaker
Essex County Sheriff

Kevin Coppinger



Presenting the...

***OFFICER TOM DUGGAN SR. PUBLIC SAFETY AWARD**

On March 16, 1990, Lawrence Police Officer Tom Duggan Sr. lost his life in the line of duty. He was a man who loved being a police officer and lived his life responding to cries for help in the community. While he worked on many major cases and high profile crimes, he always said that it was the day to day work he did on and off duty to help people in small ways that really made his job worth doing. This year we honor his service and sacrifice with "The Valley Patriot, Officer Tom Duggan Sr., Law Enforcement Award." The award is given to members of public safety (police or fire) and/or one civilian who honors the service and personal sacrifice police officers and firefighters make every day. Officer Duggan believed that those little extra things we do in life to help others ... make the biggest differences in people's lives at the end of the day and makes the world around us a better place.

PAST WINNERS: (2013): Wheelabrator's Scott Emerson & Methuen Police Officer Dan O'Connell.

(2014) Amesbury Police Officer Jason Kookan & Lawrence Firefighter Manny Gonzalez

(2015) Ret. Woburn Police Officer Bob DiNapoli & Lawrence Deputy Fire Chief Brian Murphy

(2016) Lawrence Police Officer Mike Laliberte & N. Andover Police Sgt. Dan Lanen

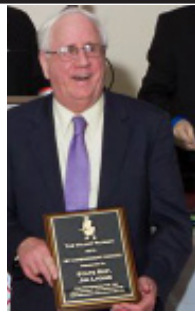
2017 NOMINEES

Methuen Police Chief Tim Sheehy
Haverhill Police Officer Guy Cooper



Lawrence Police facilities Mgr. Justin Crow discovered an unknown Lawrence Police Officer, Jeremiah O'Connor died in the line of duty November 14, 1950. Above left is Jeremiah O'Connor, at right is Lawrence Police Chief Fitzpatrick with O'Connor's great-grandson, Frank Daly, who is ironically a Lawrence Police Officer himself.

VALLEY PATRIOT AWARDS



*VALLEY PATRIOT 1ST AMENDMENT PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Each year this award is given to 2 individuals who show with their actions that they value the 1st Amendment to the Constitution. Winners of this award have made a significant difference in holding public officials accountable, fought for transparency in government and gone above and beyond the call of duty to defend and protect our right of free speech, a free press, freedom of religion and/or being a whistle-blower. They are or have taken ACTION, bold action, to make sure the public is more informed about what their government leaders and representatives are up to. Without individuals like this on the front lines in the war against free speech and a free press our freedoms could be lost.



PREVIOUS WINNERS: (2014) Auditor Suzanne Bump & State Senator Katy Ives
(2015) State Rep. Jim Lyons *Mike Sweeney LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT!
(2016) Diana DiZoglio, Bharani Padmanabhan

2017 NOMINEES:

**Methuen Police Chief Joe Solomon, N.A. Selectman Tracy Watson, Senator Bruce Tarr
Governor Charlie Baker, Gil Medeiros**

**Happy 13th Anniversary to
Tommy Duggan and
The Valley Patriot TEAM!**



**Your Friend,
Methuen Fire Chief
Tim Sheehy**

VALLEY PATRIOT EDITOR'S CHOICE AWARD

Each year The Valley Patriot honors two Valley Patriot contributors for outstanding writing or taking the high road in public discourse while also taking very bold stands on some of the most important issues that shape our culture and our community. Columnists, reporters, and even letter writers are eligible for this award. Previous winners of this award have exposed corruption, called out elected officials for bad behavior, provided exceptional information to the public and/or attracted a whole new demographic of readers to the paper.

PREVIOUS WINNERS:

(2013) Joe D'Amore & Lonnie Brennan.

(2014) Paul Murano & Jeff Katz

(2015) Kathy Runge & John MacDonald

(2015) Dave Sullivan

2017 NOMINEES:

DUNCAN BURNS

CINDY ANNIS

DANI LANGEVIN

BETH D'AMATO

DR. BHARANI PADMA-

NABHAN

FOREST RAIN

DR. RAHMI RUSTUM

VALLEY PATRIOT AWARDS

VALLEY PATRIOT PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Tonight we honor two members of The Valley Patriot family with The Valley Patriot President's Award. Nominees and winners were chosen personally by Valley Patriot Publisher Tom Duggan. Nominees of this award were chosen for their unique and/or outstanding contribution in the operations of the paper. Previous winners have helped us get the paper to the printer in emergency situations so that we don't miss a deadline, gone out in snowstorms to shovel out our street boxes, promoted us to local businesses for advertising, or provided exceptional material to the paper that nobody else could contribute.

PREVIOUS WINNERS:

(2013) Christine Morabito & Dan Selenius

(2014) Dave Sullivan & Dani Langevin

(2015) Alex Talcott & John MacDonald

(2016) Maria Fiato & Janet Aldrich

2017 NOMINEES:

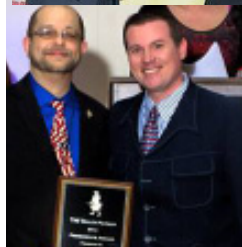
Brenda Rozzi

Rick Bellanti

Keith Wlodyka

Kevin Leach

Beth D'Amato





*** VALLEY PATRIOT HERO VETERAN AWARD**

Because honoring Veterans is so much a part of what we do at The Valley Patriot, tonight we honor two people who themselves honor our hero service men and women here at home. Honoring our veterans and recognizing their incredible sacrifices is one of the most important things we do at The Valley Patriot. Tonight we honor two veterans who not only served their country overseas but continued to serve their country when they came home. Whether it is public service, volunteering in the community or helping other veterans here at home, tonight's recipients are men who embody what service and sacrifice are all about.

PREVIOUS WINNERS: (2013) David Swarbrick, John Lenotte, & Helen Mooradkanian

(2014) Francisco Urena & Tom Fallon. (2015) Bruce Arnold Salvucci, John MacDonald & Eric Nelson

(2016) J.T. Torres - Donald Jarvis - John Ratka

2017 NOMINEES: Randy Carter & Gerard MaGuire



VALLEY PATRIOT GOOD WILL AMBASSADOR AWARD

Once called the Honorable Mention Award, The Goodwill Ambassador Award was given to TWO people who do not necessarily work for The Valley Patriot but act as our goodwill ambassadors in the community, whether through the press, or pitching in to volunteer for one of The Valley Patriot's many projects in some outstanding way. This Award was retired last year and rolled into the PRESIDENT'S AWARD.

PREVIOUS WINNERS:

(2013) Mike Grammont & Tracey Zysk

(2014) Rich Russel & Shawn Hansen

(2015) John Bergeron & Gracemarie & Joyce Tomaselli

(2016) Jack Roy & Mike & Candy Colizzi

Our Veteran Tables Tonight Were Donated By...

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Katie Cook, COMfort Home Care

Methuen Police Chief Joe Solomon

Jim Rappaport

The Coffee Cann

Cheryl White

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Born in the Dominican Republic Francisco Urena grew up in Lawrence, attending the Lawlor, Tarbox & Arlington Schools before his family moved to Florida. In June of 1998 Urena joined the Marines, training at Paris Island, SC, & then attending 2 ½ months of training as a tank commander where he learned how to operate the M1A1 tank, graduating as a tank crewman. Urena served as a security officer at the U.S. Embassy after completing a rigorous course at Quantico, VA. "My first post after completing training was in Damascus, Syria where I spent a year and a half." There, Urena learned how to speak Arabic fluently. He also learned how to speak fluent Russian when he was assigned to his second post at the U.S. Embassy in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, a country which was formerly part of the Soviet Republic. After returning home for a brief period in 2004, Urena found himself on his way to Iraq as a tank commander in the Spring of 2005 in el Anbar province of Iraq on the eastern border of Syria. During his time in Iraq, Urena was part of three major operations; Operation Matador, Operation Spear and Operation Quick Strike. During operation Matador Urena was issued a navy achievement medal for heroic actions and quick decisiveness during combat operations where he and his company were ambushed by terrorists. Urena was credited for saving numerous lives and evacuated civilians from the area safely while under heavy fire. During "Operation Spear" Urena showed his heroism once again when he was hit with shrapnel in the face. Urena was honorably discharged on June 15, 2006, but his service to his country did not end there. When he came back to the states he served as the City of Lawrence's Veteran's Services Director and is now the Secretary of Veteran's Services for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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The Grand Menorah Lighting North Andover

Six years ago when our publisher found out that the annual lighting of the Grand Menorah may not take place in North Andover for lack of sponsors, he contacted Chabad Lubavitch Jewish Center of Merrimack Valley and offered to help keep the local tradition going by being the only sponsor! For the six years the Valley Patriot has sponsored the Grand Menorah Lighting on North Andover Common to keep the candles burning. Thanks to YOU, our advertisers and our BASH sponsors the tradition continues! THANK YOU ALL!



EDUCATING VOTERS WITH REAL POLITICAL DEBATES



This past year the Valley Patriot held and moderated six political debates including this one including this one for Essex County Sheriff at North Andover High School

SUPPORTING OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS!

For the third year in a row, while other media outlets were trying to get cops killed with their fake news about how they are all evil racists who gun down black men for fun, Tom and the Valley Patriot family were holding rallies in the community to support our police!



REWRITING THE STATES PUBLIC RECORDS LAW

And then there was this little matter of Tom Duggan re-writing the state's public records law so that public officials who conceal public records will be punished. Thank you to Sen Katy Ives, Rep. DiZoglio, for sponsoring the bill and Governor Charlie Baker for SIGNING IT!

THANK YOU FOR 13 YEARS OF SUPPORT!!!



**THERE'S NOBODY WHO STEPS TO THE
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**Methuen Firefighters Union,
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Happy 13Th Anniversary

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT ...



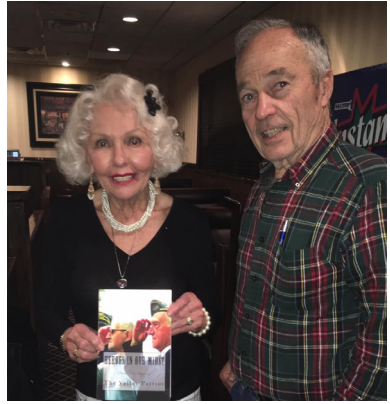
For the last thirteen years The Valley Patriot has shown an undying commitment to law enforcement and it has not gone unnoticed by those of us who wear the uniform. From the men and women of the Methuen Police Patrolman's Association and the Methuen Police Superior Officers' Association we want to say **THANK YOU** to Tom Duggan and everyone at The Valley Patriot. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed by those of us who are charged with protecting and serving the public! Thank you for objectively reporting the truth in an industry that should take notes from your success.



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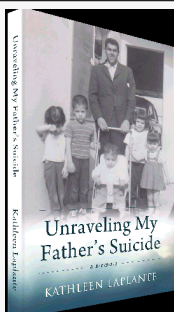
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~Author Kathleen Laplante

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In Memory of

**Valley Patriot Family Members No Longer with Us;
Ronnie Ford, Michael Tarshi, Jim Cassidy, Walter Pomerleau,
& the incredible Bruce Arnold Salvucci
(The 2015 Valley Patriot, Hero Veteran Award Recipient)**



Bruce Arnold

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BEGINNING
WITH US NOW
IN SPIRIT**



Ronnie Ford



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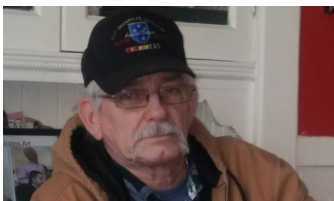


Walter Pomerleau

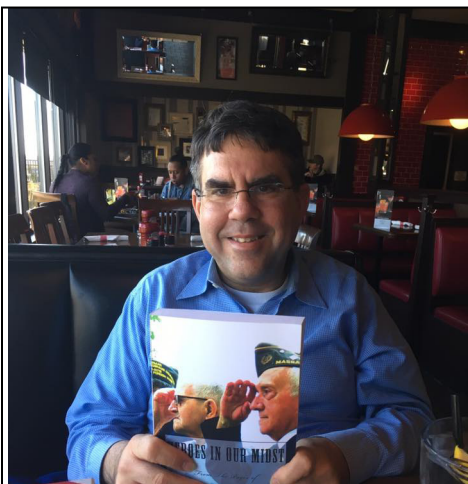
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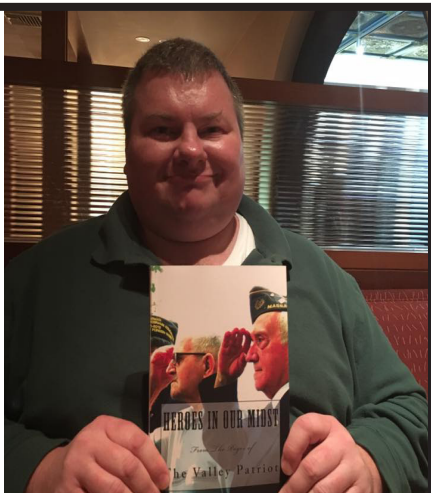
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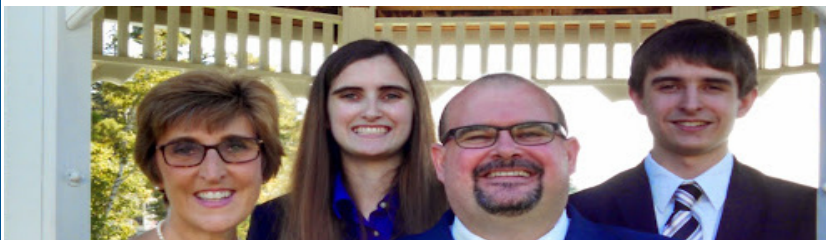
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